

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

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FM AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5485

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY BONN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECIN, PFOR, OAU, MP

SUBJECT: VISIT OF OAU ASSISTANT SEC GEN TO MAURITIUS

REF: ADDIS ABABA 12210

1. OAU ASSISTANT SEC GEN KAMANDA WA KAMANDA VISITED MAURITIUS OCTOBER 4-9 REPORTELY TO DISCUSS UP-COMING JUNE OAU MEETINGS IN MAURITIUS. ACCORDING TO INFORMATION ADVISOR TO GOM MINISTRY OF INFORMATION, KAMANDA MADE NO SPEECHES AND REFUSED INDIVIDUAL PRESS INTERVIEWS. IN AN INFORMAL PRESS CONFERENCE OCTOBER 9, HE ANSWERED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE PROJECTED MEETING BUT GENERALLY STEERED CLEAR OF POLITICAL OR ECONOMIC SUBJECTS. ACCORDING TO LE MAURICIEN OF OCTOBER 10, KAMANDA SAID QTE OAU IS FIGHTING FOR A NEW ECONOMIC ORDER AND FOR THE RE-EVALUATION OF OUR PRIMARY PRODUCTS UNQTE AND THAT THE OAU CONFERENCE WILL DISCUSS THIS ISSUE. OTHER PAPERS CARRIED SIMILAR ACCOUNTS OF HIS COMMENT ON ECONOMIC ORDER.

2. LOCAL PRESS HAS HEADLINED GENERAL AMIN CALL FOR PRIME MINISTER RAMGOOLAM TO BECOME PRESIDENT OF A NEW REPUBLIC BEFORE SUMMIT

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MEETINGS TO AVOID POSSIBILITY THAT QUEEN ELIZABETH, AS HEAD OF STATE

OF THE COMMONWEALTH, WOULD BE ELECTED OAU PRESIDENT.

3. IN HIS PRESS CONFERENCE KAMANDA WAS ASKED IF THE COMMONWEALTH STATUS OF MAURITIUS WOULD CAUSE ANY PROBLEMS TO THE OAU. HE RESPONDED THAT DESIGNATIONS OF SUCH POSITIONS ARE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF ALL THE CHIEFS OF STATE AND THE ORGANIZATION AND THAT THEY WOULD MAKE THEIR OWN DECISION.

4. OPPOSITION LEADER DUVAL TOLD REPORTERS THAT HE BELIEVES AMIN IS CORRECT BECAUSE A PRIME MINISTER CANNOT BE PRESIDENT OF AN ORGANIZATION THAT INCLUDES CHIEFS OF STATE. UDM OPPOSITION LEADER OLLIVRY, ON THE OTHER HAND, SAID THAT MAURITIUS DOES NOT NEED TO TAKE LESSONS ON CONSTITUTIONALITY FROM AMIN, WHILE LABOR PARTY SECRETARY GENERAL JAGATSINGH TOLD REPORTERS THAT AMIN SHOULD STICK TO HIS OWN AFFAIRS.
MANHARD

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